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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because Figure 5 does not show any reference 1. labels' identifying what is shown. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Allowable Subject Matter

- 2. Claims 1-2, 5-7, and 10-12 are allowed.
- The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1 andare allowed because the closest prior art of record fails to disclose a circuit as shown

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in Figure 1 wherein the first reference frequency and the second reference frequency stored in the first memory device (130) and the second memory device (132) respectively are sampled from sinusoidal waves in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 2, 5, 7, and 10 are is allowed because the closest prior art of record fails to disclose a circuit as shown in Figures 1 and 5 wherein the target frequency is shifted by one position for next comparison until a minimal resolution does not distinguish a difference between the target frequency and the predetermined threshold (see specification page 3, lines 11-13) in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claims 11 and 12 are allowed because the closest prior art of record fails to disclose a circuit as shown in Figures 1 and 5 wherein an order of the linear feedback shift register (140) determines the minimal resolution (see specification page 5, lines 15-19) in combination with the rest of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cassandra Cox whose telephone number is 571-272-

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1741. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM and on alternate Fridays from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy Callahan can be reached on 571-272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

March 3, 2005